

2027 National Literary Competition Rules
(Règlement du Concours littéraire national 2027)

1. Since 1978, the Ministry of Culture has organised an annual competition to encourage literary creation in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The competition is open to authors and author collectives who hold Luxembourg nationality, reside in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, or have one or more permanent or predominant places of work in the territory of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.
2. The *2027 National Literary Competition* is reserved for children's and young adult literature in Luxembourgish, French, German, and/or English. Submitted works must fall under either children's literature (for readers up to 12 years old) or young adult literature (for readers aged 12 and above). All genres of children's and young adult literature are eligible (novels, short story collections, poetry, illustrated books, comics, etc.). There are two categories of prizes for the competition: one for adult authors from age 20 upwards, the other for young authors aged between 12 and 19.
3. Each author or author collective may submit only one typescript. Authors and collectives are free to choose the theme, the number of pages, and language(s) of the submitted text.
4. Each typescript will be evaluated as a completed work. For illustrated books, the collective work of the author and illustrator will be considered.
5. The texts must not have been previously published and may not be published or distributed by any means, in their entirety or in extracts, before the publication of the results of the competition via the official press release from the Ministry of Culture. The submitted work must be strictly personal and original and must have been created without the use of artificial intelligence. Translations - even partial - of existing works are not allowed. In the case of adaptations, reference to the original work must be indicated on the first sheet of the typescript.
6. Typescripts must be typed or printed in a legible font, on standard, smooth, non-textured paper (excluding any collage, cut-out, attached object, or handcrafted treatment that could hinder reading or digitisation). Any illustration incorporated into the typescript must be printed; hand-drawn illustrations or graphic elements are not permitted unless they have been previously digitised and then printed. Each page must be numbered continuously and sequentially, from the first page to the last, without interruption or omission. Although the presentation format (layout, margins, line spacing) remains unrestricted, manuscripts must under no circumstances be bound, stapled, perforated, or fastened by any other means that would make the pages difficult to separate. The sheets must be submitted as loose pages, placed in a folder or envelope for easy handling, storage, and archiving.
7. Typescripts must be submitted in one printed copy to the Ministry of Culture **no later than Tuesday, June 15, 2027, by 5:00 PM** (postmark date applies).
8. Applications must be marked "Concours littéraire national 2027" and sent or delivered to the reception of the Ministry of Culture in an envelope addressed to: "*Service de la création et de la promotion artistiques – Littérature et édition*" at the Ministry of Culture, 4, boulevard F.D. Roosevelt, L-2450 Luxembourg.

The submission must include:

- a. **One printed copy of the typescript**, that must not bear any personal mark that would allow identification of the author, illustrator or author collective. Only the title of the work, a chosen

pseudonym, the target readership ("children's literature" or "young adult literature") and the age category ("adult authors" or "young authors aged 12–19") should be indicated on each copy.

b. A small, sealed envelope

bearing the following on the outside:

- The chosen pseudonym
- The title of the work
- The target readership ("children's literature" or "young adult literature")
- The age category ("adult authors" or "young authors aged 12–19")

and containing a card inside bearing

- The legitimate first and last name(s) of the author(s), illustrator(s), or collective members
- The author's/authors postal address and email address
- The author's/authors telephone number
- A signed declaration of honour confirming that the typescript contains no AI-generated text or images.

9. A five-member jury will be appointed by the Minister of Culture from among experts in literature who have distinguished themselves in this field by their qualifications, publications, or professional experience. The jury will elect a president from among its members and will respect the *general operating rules of the National Literary Competition jury*, which may be requested from the ministry and is available on its website. The jury's deliberations are not public. The jury shall provide reasons for its decisions, and such decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

10. The secretariat of the jury will be a member of the staff working at the Ministry of Culture. The jury secretary will attend the jury sessions but will not intervene at any time in the deliberation or in the vote. The secretary will ensure compliance with the contest rules.

11. Members of the jury and staff working at the Ministry of Culture may not participate in the competition.

12. Due to the anonymity guaranteed by the use of pseudonyms, no acknowledgement of receipt of the application file can be issued.

13. The Ministry of Culture shall make the typescripts available to the Jury in electronic form. For this purpose, it shall digitise the copies received or entrust this operation to an external service provider bound by a strict obligation of confidentiality. Only the typescripts shall be digitised. The sealed envelopes referred to in Article 8(b) shall neither be opened nor digitised and shall remain in the custody of the Ministry of Culture until the conclusion of the jury's deliberations.

14. After the jury's decision, printed typescripts will not be returned. The personal contact information of the authors/author collectives/illustrators of the typescripts that do not win will not be disclosed to the members of the jury or other persons. The envelopes referred to in Article 8 (b), together with one copy of the printed typescript will be placed in the archives of the National Literature Centre in Mersch and will remain inaccessible for 75 years.

15. The jury's decisions will be made public in November 2027 via press release sent by the Ministry of Culture, which will also be made available on its website: <http://www.gouvernement.lu/mc>. The awards ceremony will take place in December 2027.

16. In the "adult authors" category, children's and young adult literature will be awarded separately:

- Among the submitted typescripts of children's literature intended for readers up to the age of 12, the jury may award a first prize of €7,500 and a contribution of up to €5,000 towards the publication costs of the winning work, upon submission of a proposal by a recognized publishing house;
- Among the submitted typescripts of young adult literature intended for readers aged 12 and over, the jury may award a first prize of €7,500 and a contribution of up to €5,000 towards the publication costs of the winning work, submission of a proposal by a recognized publishing house.

17. In the "young authors aged 12 to 19" category, children's and young adult literature will be awarded separately:

- Among the submitted typescripts of children's literature intended for readers up to the age of 12, the jury may award a first prize of €3,000;
- Among the submitted typescripts of young adult literature intended for readers aged 12 and over, the jury may award a first prize of €3,000.

18. Authors, illustrators, and collectives retain all rights to their submitted work.

19. Entry to the contest constitutes acceptance of the above conditions.

Information : info@mc.public.lu

Ministry of Culture, Service de la création et de la promotion artistiques – Littérature et édition / Tel: 247-76616

If the English version deviates from the content of the French original, the French original applies in case of doubt.